



**EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EL 978648659 US**

**DATE DEPOSITED: 09/30/2005**

PTO/SB/24 (06-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**EXPRESS ABANDONMENT UNDER  
37 CFR 1.138**

Fax directly to the Pre-Grant Publication Division at (703) 305-8568; or  
mail to: Mail Stop Express Abandonment  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	10/619,696
Filing Date	07/15/2003
First Named Inventor	Donald E. Weder
Art Unit	1772
Examiner Name	N. Ahmad
Attorney Docket Number	8403.933

Please check only one of boxes 1 or 2 below:

(If no box is checked, this paper will be treated as a request for express abandonment as of the filing date of this paper.)

1. ☐ **Express Abandonment**  
I request that the above-identified application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date of this paper.

2. ☒ **Express Abandonment in Favor of a Continuing Application**  
I request that the above-identified application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date accorded  
the continuing application filed previously or herewith.

This application is being abandoned as the inventive concept claimed herein has been  
sufficiently covered in other issued patents or pending applications.

**NOTE:** A paper requesting express abandonment of an application is not effective unless and until an appropriate  
USPTO official recognizes and acts on the paper. See the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), section 711.01.

**TO AVOID PUBLICATION, PLEASE USE FORM PTO/SB/24A INSTEAD OF THIS FORM.**

- I am the: ☐ applicant.
- ☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.  
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)
- ☒ attorney or agent of record. Registration Number 46,768
- ☐ attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34 (may act under 37 CFR 1.34  
only if box 2 above, stating that the application is expressly abandoned in favor of  
a continuing application, is checked). Attorney or agent registration number if  
acting under 37 CFR 1.34. \_\_\_\_\_

(Attorney or agent registration number)

Signature

09/30/2005

Date

Kathryn L. Hester, Ph.D.

Typed or printed name

(405) 607-8600

Telephone Number

Note: Signature of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if  
more than one signature is required, see below.

☒ Total of 1 forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.138. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process an application). Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Express Abandonment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.